

## **Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 116**

### **RESOLUTION CHAPTER 77**

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 116—Relative to California Lab Day.

[Filed with Secretary of State August 10, 2010.]

#### **LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST**

ACR 116, Hill. California Lab Day.

This measure would proclaim May 12, 2010, as California Lab Day.

WHEREAS, President Barack Obama announced on Monday, November 23, 2009, a campaign, entitled “Educate to Innovate,” to reinvigorate student interest in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education in order to promote competitiveness in American students’ math and science skills; and

WHEREAS, Part of the “Educate to Innovate” campaign includes the declaration of a National Lab Day, a grassroots initiative designed to reinvigorate STEM education in the nation’s schools and after school programs, and lead to increased United States competitiveness; and

WHEREAS, More than 200 public and private sector organizations have pledged support for National Lab Day, including the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, the National Science Teachers Association, the National Science Foundation, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the Jack D. Hidary Foundation, the American Chemistry Society, the National Institutes of Health, and the Business Roundtable; and

WHEREAS, California is a leader in the biomedical and high-technology industries, which together employ over 700,000 Californians in solid wage careers; and

WHEREAS, California suffers from a shortage of skilled workers in scientific industries who possess the appropriate level of math and science competency required to fuel innovation within the Golden State’s technology sectors, impeding our ability to challenge global competitors; and

WHEREAS, California’s leaders within the K–14 and higher education systems, as well as the Legislature and Governor’s office, have expressed an urgent need to develop the next generation of scientific researchers by encouraging young Californians to pursue these exciting fields of study; and

WHEREAS, California’s ethnic diversity puts the state in a prime position to develop the scientific talents of all of its students, including those from groups that have been historically underrepresented in science and technology, including women, minorities, and persons with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Given the growing threat to America's preeminence in science and technology, recognizing the innovative research that takes place in California's biomedical and high-technology research laboratories is critical to raising student and public awareness of the next generation of scientific leaders; and

WHEREAS, The health and economic benefits provided to our state by the businesses and institutions involved in the full range of scientific industries are numerous; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring*, That the Legislature proclaims May 12, 2010, as California Lab Day, in conjunction with the National Lab Day, and extends its support to students of all ages who are interested in STEM education; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.